IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3-8, and 10-25 (marked up version attached in Appendix), such that pending claims 1-25 are as follows:

1.(Amended) A method for inserting a tube into a borehole of a bored well in the ground, comprising successively adding a straight tube part to a proximal end of the tube while the tube reaches into the borehole, and subsequently inserting the tube further in the borehole, wherein the addition of the tube part is carried out by means of welding and wherein, after the addition of a tube part, a tool in an area where the added tube part is welded to the tube is operated by a structure extending via the proximal end to the area where the added tube part is welded to the tube, characterized in that said tool performs a reaming operation in the area where the added tube part is welded to the tube, for making an inner wall surface of the tube smoother.

2. A method according to claim 1, wherein during the addition of a tube part, a joint is formed of a thickness substantially equal to the thickness of adjacent tube parts.

3.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the welding is carried out at a position spaced away from the borehold.

4.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the welding takes place in a screened space.

5.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein during welding the next tube part is out of alignment with a proximal portion of the borehole.

6.(Amended) A method according to claim 5, wherein during welding the next tube part is oriented at an angle with respect to a proximal portion of the borehole.

7.(Amended) A method according to claim 6, wherein during welding the next tube part is oriented horizontally.

8.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein tube parts after addition follow a preceding tube part to the borehole along a curved path.

9. A method according to claim 8, wherein said tube parts proceeding along said curved path are bent and thereby are deformed exclusively elastically.

10.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the borehole in the area of a well head is held sealed against the tube and wherein an overpressure prevails under the sealing.

11.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the tube parts which are added to the tube reaching into the borehold have a length smaller than 20 m.

12.(Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the tube reaching into the borehole, during the addition thereto of a tube part, is held internally sealed in an area which, viewed in the longitudinal direction of the tube, is located between an area where the tube part to be added is welded to the tube, and the borehole.

13.(Amended) A method according to claim 12, wherein said tool engages said internal barrier in the tube and axially displaces said barrier through said tube at least after the addition of a tube part.

14.(Amended) A method according to claims 13, wherein the axial displacement of said barrier through said tube after the addition of a tube part occurs prior to the addition of a next tube part.

15.(Amended) An installation for inserting a tube into a borehole of a bored well in the ground, comprising a well head, means for inserting a tube into the well head, and means for adding a tube part to a tube extending into the well head, wherein the means for adding a tube part to a tube extending into the well head are designed as a welding device, further comprising a tool for performing operations in an area where the added tube part is welded to the tube and an elongate operating structure for operating said tool via the proximal end in the area where the added tube part is welded to the tube, characterized in that said tool is a reamer for reaming an inner wall surface of said tube in the area where the added tube part is welded to the tube.

16.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, wherein the welding device is arranged for forming a welded joint, with the thickness of the tube in the area of the joint being substantially equal to the thickness in adjacent areas of the tube.

17.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, wherein the welding device is spaced away from the well head.

18.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, wherein the welding device comprises a screening which surrounds the welding device.

19.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, wherein the welding device comprises a passage for receiving, during welding, the tube part to be added, said passage being located out of alignment with a proximal portion of the borehole.

20.(Amended) An installation according to claim 19, wherein said passage is oriented at an angle with respect to a proximal portion of the borehole.

21.(Amended) An installation according to claim 20, wherein said passage is oriented horizontally.

22.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, further comprising a guide adapted for successively passing tube parts, after addition, along a curved path to the borehole.

23.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, further comprising a sealing for sealing the well head against the tube for preventing egress of fluid along the tube out of the borehole.

24.(Amended) An installation according to claim 15, further comprising a barrier for internally axially sealing-off the tube reaching into the borehole, during the addition thereto of a tube part.

25.(Amended) An installation according to claim 24, wherein said tool is adapted for engaging said internal barrier in the tube and for axially displacing said barrier through said tube.

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the above amendments be made prior to calculating the filing fee. In this Preliminary Amendment, the claims are amended to remove multiple dependencies, typographical errors and reference numerals. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the number listed below if such a call would in any way facilitate examination of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

KINNEY & LANGE, P.A.

Date: 7-18-01

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